



P.O. Box 352 • 150 S. Bridge St. • Markesan, WI 53946 • P: (920) 398-3031 • F: (920) 398-3991

PUBLIC PROPERTY & HEALTH COMMITTEE

Markesan City Hall

AUGUST 4, 2016
7:00 p.m.

AGENDA

Call to Order

Roll Call

Citizen's Comments

Public Works Report

- Council Chamber Air Conditioning Repair
- Use of City Dumpster for Circus, Aug. 16, 2016

Old Business

- Allowing Chickens in Residential Zoning

New Business

- Industrial Park Sign, Request for New Placards for Existing Sign
 - KT Service Center (formerly KT Motorsports)
 - CWS
- Request to Place Temporary Signs in Industrial Park, KT Service Center
- Cancellation of Blue Skies & Lullabies Child Care Lease Renewal

Adjournment

A quorum of the Markesan Common Council may be in attendance at this meeting to gather information about a subject over which they have decision making responsibility. Under Wisconsin Open Meeting Law, this may constitute a meeting of the Common Council pursuant to the Badtke Decision, however, the Council will not take action at this meeting.

Any person requiring special assistance to participate in this meeting should contact the Clerk-Treasurer at 398-3031 at least 24 hours prior to the meeting so appropriate accommodations can be made.

Posted: Markesan State Bank City Hall
Farmers State Bank Post Office
www.markesanwi.gov

Dated August 3, 2016
Lavonne Athorp, Clerk-Treasurer

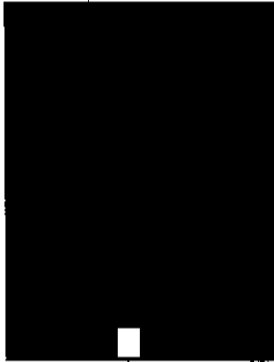
I would like the City Council of Markesan, WI to amend the current city regulation of having no poultry within the city limits.

I would like to see the current city regulation amended to Allow Chickens within the City Limits of Markesan, WI . Listed below are the guidelines to having a permit to have chickens and what Department of the City Government would handle a specific detail.

1. No roosters
2. Three hens maximum allowed
3. Chickens shall be kept in the back yard in a caged area; such as portable chicken coops or chicken tractors and be kept 25 feet from neighborhood dwellings.
4. Chickens must be maintained to prevent escape.
5. Chickens must have a green space of 3 feet per bird
6. Chicken quarters to be kept clean and sanitary
7. The City of Markesan has the right to inspect Chicken Coops upon notification of unsanitary and uncleanness.
8. Chickens would be only allowed at single family dwellings.
9. No slaughtering of chickens in a public space or where visible to the public or neighborhood.
10. If there is a complaint, the City of Markesan Police Department shall handle the complaint as a barking dog call or animal at-large call.
12. If there are three calls within a six month period your permit will be revoked and it would be two years before you can reapply for a permit to have chickens in a single dwelling.
13. A permit shall be issued by the City of Markesan, so that they know the person having the chickens and the address where they are located.

Column: It's time to allow chickens in the city of Fond du Lac

DIANA BECK 11 p.m. CST March 6, 2015



(Photo: Action Reporter Media)

People raised chickens in their yards in Fond du Lac years ago. Some of our older citizens may remember those days. Chicken eggs and meat were an excellent source of protein that didn't require a lot of expense. The main problem was protecting the hens from weasels, foxes, hawks and owls. For our early settlers in Fond du Lac, building a tight coop to keep the predators out improved with the availability of good lumber.

Somewhere along the way Fond du Lac decided to eliminate all farm animals from the city limits. This probably was the result of our city growing bigger and also the increased availability of food in grocery stores. There was less need to grow your own food.

At today's population levels, our society is relying more and more on the large industrialized farms to supply our food. This has resulted in a whole new set of problems. Industrial livestock production produces 99 percent of our meat but also produces 500 million tons of manure every year. What to do with all that waste and the emissions of methane gases? The animals are crowded into toxic environments and have to be maintained with antibiotics. Hens laying eggs in factory chicken farms spend their lives in small battery cages

that allow .6 square feet per hen. These hens are debeaked to prevent cannibalism.

The Urban Chicken Movement can be an answer to some of the industrial problems. A property owner can easily use the manure produced by four to six chickens in their garden and flower beds. Years ago, I raised some Easter chicks to adult roosters. My mother had the best begonias when she used the site of the chicken cage.

The urban chickens don't need antibiotics and can eat a healthy diet including bugs from the yard. Small scale backyard farming is the answer to salmonella and other disease outbreaks that can happen in crowded and unsanitary conditions in commercial egg operations.

To help us move toward a more sustainable society, we see an emphasis on buying and producing locally. Produce is fresher and does not need to be transported great distances. What can be more local and fresh than bringing in your eggs from your own chicken coop?

The Urban Chicken Movement is growing larger every year. Many communities in Wisconsin and the USA allow urban chickens, even some of our neighboring cities like Oshkosh and Plymouth. People are rising up and demanding the right to raise chickens for food security as well as the right to control the quality of their food and knowing it is free of contamination.

Each community adopts their own ordinance. Madison has allowed chickens in the city since 2004. There were about 20 permits issued the first year and this last year a little over 200 permits. The ordinance does control the number of hens and does not allow roosters. Despite having small yards in Brooklyn and Chicago, their ordinances don't even limit the number of hens.

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Are chickens really a problem? Anyone who has had the opportunity to visit someone's backyard chickens can testify that the hens are not noisy at all



**Application for Chicken License
City of Madison, Wisconsin**



Read and initial each item, then sign and print your name and fill in your address. Use black or dark blue ink.

_____ **If required to do so, I have notified the property owner and all residents of the residential lot on which I will be keeping chickens. (See "How to Obtain a City of Madison Chicken License.")**

Note: Notification is not required for annual renewals of a license to keep chickens.

_____ **I have completed the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection "Livestock Premises Registration Application." My registration number is _____.**

_____ **I have read, and I understand, the conditions under which I may keep chickens. I agree to abide by these conditions, which are as follows:**

- 1. No more than four chickens shall be kept on a residential lot with up to four dwelling units.**
- 2. No person shall keep any rooster.**
- 3. No person shall slaughter any chickens.**
- 4. The chickens shall be provided with a covered enclosure and must be kept in the covered enclosure or a fenced enclosure at all times.**
- 5. No enclosure shall be located closer than 25 feet to any residential structure on an adjacent lot.**

_____ **I understand that the Zoning Administrator may revoke my license to keep chickens if, in any six-month period, I accumulate three or more violations of any ordinance regulating the keeping of chickens.**

Signature of applicant

Printed name of applicant

Address of applicant

Date submitted to Treasurer

KT Service Center Sign Wishes:

1. Sign changed to reflect new business name: KT Service Center- Who would be responsible for putting business name on sign.
2. Trees are blocking sign visibility from road. Many customers have complained they could not locate Enterprise Dr.
3. Permission to occasionally advertise specials. Signs would be placed at the end of the road, near the business park sign. Advertising specials would run no more than 2 weeks. We respectfully request to utilize this no more than 8 times a year. Advertising will be professional looking, and kept maintained while in use.

To Whom it May Concern:

I like to began by apologizing for this inconvenience I'm having to put the city of Markesan through. It saddens me to come to this decision but I decided to close the Childcare center in August 8, 2016. The center is hurting financially I only have 4 children enroll two of them are part time. What I realized is that a lot of families in the area can't afford childcare center expenses so there putting their children in home daycares and even though most of this home daycares aren't license or certified parents choose this option because of their very very low rates I found a lady in the area while posting my center ad that she was charging \$2.00-\$3.00 dollars and hour. Parents for this reason are choosing this type of care for their children. I can't compete with those rates eventhough I did cut my hourly rate drastically I could never match that because I couldn't afford to pay staff or bills at that price. Like the above homedaycare I found couple more in the area. In fact I almost had a family enroll two children but called me a day later letting me know they found home daycare at \$3.00 an hour and my price was \$4.75 hour. It also came to my understanding the Umos kids would only need care for one month because since not all families showed up this year they had space in their centers to place more families from the town that where suppose to be sent to my center that also affected me deeply. This situation is hurting me but its also hurting my family aswell. Last week my father in law had a heart attack and he is still in the hospital thank God he is gaining stability and getting well but the reason I like to express this to you all is my husband hasn't been able to travel to visit him because he is my extra help we can't afford to hire help with no children. I believe this is the best decision for my family at this time. Thank you for all your time and I beg that you please please consider this situation and allow me to cancel the lease we just signed on July 13, 2016 and end the lease by August 30th 2016 and I would turn in keys by August 22, 2016. Once again I apologize tremendously. Thank you for all your time and assistance you have provided.

God Bless you All Sincerely,

Lizbeth Perez